

The community of St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes stand.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 27th November 2022 - Year A

The hope that comes from heaven

Hope is the theme of the First Sunday of Advent. In the readings for Mass, Isaiah describes a future in which all is well because (1) God is recognized as the highest authority and (2) obeying him is the people's highest priority.

This vision gave great hope to the oppressed Israelites. Today if we look at this as a description of heaven, it gives great hope to us, too. When we die, "terms" will be "imposed" upon us because we did not stay entirely on the paths of God (a good reason for purgatory), but we will be living in the light of the Lord after death and there will be no more wars to battle.

Knowing that this is our future, we can look at our present trials as preparations for heaven. The weapons that we use now to defeat and overcome the powers of darkness can be used as plowshares for enriching our soil (our earthly life), bringing us into new growth and producing a harvest in ministry. Sufferings that are turned into ministries to help others make hardships very valuable.

Although Isaiah was speaking of the coming of the world's Messiah through the Jews, these verses remind us that when we respect God's authority and make imitating Christ our highest priority, all is well for us. Our battles against evil aren't over yet, but Jesus has already won the victory for us. Our hope is not based on a wish for peace; our hope comes from the reality of what Jesus has already done and what he will do. So, "let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord!" (Psalm 122).

The Gospel reading tells us that our hope is realized only if we stay awake and alert to the activities of Christ. What are you despairing about? Despair and worry are merely distractions that make us forget that Christ has already won the battle. If we stay alert to the presence of Christ, recognizing his authority and following his ways, we live in hope -- not wishful thinking, but a hope that's based firmly on reality.

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NOVEMBER MASSES

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in purgatory.

Please place your envelope of mass intentions for the Souls in the basket provided in front of the Altar.



Welcome to New Parishioners

Please make yourselves known to our Priests and to the parishioners who greet you as you arrive. For more information about our parish or how to volunteer in the Church ministry or our activities, please contact the Parish Office below.

MASS TIMES

St Mary's (20 Merivale St, South Brisbane)

- Mon-Fri: 7am | Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass)
- Sunday: 9am and 5pm
- St Francis of Assisi (47 Dornoch Tce, West End)
- Sunday: 9am
- St Ita's (Pope St, Dutton Park)Saturday (Vigil): 5pm
- Sunday: 10.30am (Indonesian)

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (Victoria St, Fairfield)

Sunday: 7am

CONFESSION

St Mary's Church Sat: 8.30am-9am | Sun: 4.15-4.45pm

St Ita's Church By appointment (contact parish office)

More information: Websites: - <u>www.southbrisbanestmarys.org.au</u> - www.duttonparkcatholic.org.au

FB: - www.facebook.com/stmaryssouthbrisbane/ www.fb.me/duttonparkwestendcatholicparish

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Parish Priest: Fr. Joshy Parappully OFM Cap Email: <u>pp.southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au</u>

Parish Deacon: Deacon Adam Walk Email: <u>walka@bne.catholic.net.au</u> Pastoral Coordinator: Sr. Salvation Bunao SFI Parish Secretary: Niken Westerman Finance Officer: Kevin Bhasin Parish Youth: couthbrichene@bno.catholic.net Parish Youth: southbrisbane@bne.catholic.net.au

Safeguarding Officers:

- St Mary's Church : Chris Bolger (0407 480 205)
- St Francis of Assisi: Liam Cunnane (0477 306 166)
- St Ita's Church: Liam O'Rourke (0411 033 321)
- OLPS Church: Vania Lobo (0435 935 925)

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ST ITAS'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 247 Gladstone Rd, Sutton Park, Q 4102 Phone: (07) 3838 8400 Email: pduttonpark@bne.catholic.edu.au Web: www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au

READINGS AT MASS

First reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121(122):1-2,4-5,6-9

R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R/**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R**/

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!. **R**/

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R/**

Second reading: Romans 13:11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Communion Antiphon: Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

(Excerpts from: The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commision on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) and Universalis © 1996-2018 Universalis Publishing Limited.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What are you despairing about? What would it take for you to feel hopeful? In what way do you need Jesus to come to you now? What can you do to become more aware of his presence at your side?

THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

Monday 28th:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Tuesday 29th:

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Wednesday 30th: *Feast (St Andrew) Their message goes out through all the earth*

Thursday 1st:

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Friday 2nd: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Saturday 3rd: *Memorial (St Francis Xavier)* Happy are all who long for the coming of the Lord

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Second Sunday of Advent

1st reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

2nd reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

INCARNATION - Advent Reflection Thursday, 24 November - 6pm At St Mary's House



As we journey through the seasons of Advent and Christmas this year, we invite you to join us in our 4 weekly reflection as we reflect daily on the wonder of the incarnation of Jesus Christ, where, as St Augustine of Hippo reflects:

"Man's maker was made man that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that Truth might be accused of false witnesses, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die."

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Spread across the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Our 24/7 prayer engine for the world



In January 2023, St Mary's will join with other Churches within the Archdiocese in sharing Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. Each Church exposes the Blessed Sacrament on a set day of the week for a continuous 24 hour period. St Mary's period will commence following the 8.00am Mass on Saturdays until

before 9.00 am Mass on Sundays.

You are encouraged to become a Dedicated Adorer having a regular hour(s) on roster, or as a Casual Adorer – helping to fill vacancies. Both are vital for the continuation of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration.

If you wish to be included in the roster, please complete the registration sheet at St Mary's. Enguiries: Dianne mob: 0411869017



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI SVDP CONFERENCE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

Supporting families in the West End, Highgate Hill, Dutton Park, Fairfield & South Brisbane areas. You can help in 2 ways ...



1. Donate non-perishable food items such as: (Collection boxes are placed near the entrance in each of our parish churches)

- Christmas cakes - Tinned ham - Spaghetti - Rice	- Mince pies - Tinned fish - Noodles - Pasta	 Tinned turkey Tinned meat Cereal Pastas sauces
 Stir-fry sauces 	- Soups	- Tinned Veggies
- Soft drinks	- Cordials	 Popper juices
- Nuts	- Spreads	- baked beans
- Tinned fruits	- Biscuits	- Chips & Iollies
- Long life custard - Tea & coffee - Long life milk		
- Coles gift card - Target gift cards		
- Woolworths 'groceries only' gift card		

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Please ensure all food is within use by dates.

2. Make a money donation

Your donation means we can purchase food items to include in the hampers. Donations can be placed in the Poor Boxes at each church. Envelopes are available.

ST MARY'S READER TRAINING Sunday, 27 November After 9am Mass At St Mary's Church



We invite all St Mary's readers especially newly enrolled readers to join in a Reader Training this Sunday after mass in St Mary's Church.

ST FRANCIS TABLE - Ministry for the Elderly Christmas Party Monday, 12 December 9 am - 1 pm at St Francis' Hall

Please join us for our Christmas Party celebration. All welcome!

Note: This ministry will be taking a break over the Christmas holidays from 19 December and will resume on 6 February 2023.



2 MINUTES CATECHISM

What is Advent?

The word Advent is from the Latin adventus for "coming" and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Advent always contains four Sundays, beginning on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30) and continuing until December 24.

In 2022, Advent begins on November 27 and ends on December 24 (Christmas Eve), as the Mass of the Lord's Nativity begins. Christmas Day is December 25.

Why do we celebrate Advent?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraph 524) says,

When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Why is Advent important to the Catholic Church?

This is a period of preparation for the celebration of the Incarnation at Christmas. As Christmas seems to arrive commercially ever earlier each year, the faithful should try to turn our hearts more toward the Lord. Mother Angelica, the foundress of EWTN, once said,

Let's not let the season pass without a depth of spirituality in our hearts that lets us ponder. Ponder the mystery of how, and why, this Omnipotent God, before Whom angels tremble, would come down and live nine months in the most pure and holy woman that ever lived, and ever will live. He was confined in a womb with that Infinite Intelligence, Infinite Power, and the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Taken from www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-andfeast-days



To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550 For more information visit <u>brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding</u>